a relatively rigid external housing;

at least one noise producing component internal to the housing; and

a thin flexible enclosure substantially sealed around each said noise producing component.

4. (Amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the flexible enclosure includes an opening adapted to allow passage of each said noise producing component into the interior of the flexible enclosure.

6. (Amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the flexible enclosure includes one or more apertures to allow breathable gas into and out of each said noise producing component.

9. (Amended) A method of assembling the apparatus claimed in claim 1, the method comprising:

providing the at least one noise producing component in a sub-assembly;

placing the sub-assembly into the interior of the flexible enclosure through an opening therein;

substantially sealing the opening; and placing the flexible enclosure within the external housing.